FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 JUNE 1983

Lebanon

Al-Wazzan Remarks — France has agreed to grant Lebanon loan facilities of Frl billion for 1983, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced at a Paris news conference broadcast by Beirut radio. Expressing concern that "some stances" are giving Israel a pretext not to withdraw from Lebanon, Al-Wazzan said Lebanon is not asking the Arab countries to approve the Lebanese-Israeli agreement but to show understanding for Lebanon's position.

Habib Mission — Presidential envoy Philip Habib met in Beirut with President Amin al-Jumayyil and subsequently held talks in Jerusalem with Prime Minister Menahem Begin, according to Beirut and Jerusalem radios. Habib told Begin "nothing new" and left the prime minister's office "empty-handed," Jerusalem radio said.

Security Situation — An IDF soldier was wounded by an explosion near Sidon and Israeli soldiers earlier captured a member of a "terrorist" squad which had attacked them in a southern suburb of Beirut, according to Jerusalem and IDF radios. Meanwhile, the Israeli papers *Davar* and *Ha'aretz* reported that Lebanese groups are becoming increasingly involved in the attacks on the IDF.

Israel

Authoritative government sources reacted "sharply" to Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon's call for an IDF withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf hills in Lebanon and dismissed his claim that Israel is remaining in the region to serve U.S. and Lebanese interests, *Ha'aretz* reported. Government sources disclosed that Sharon has recently leveled "pointed criticism" at Defense Minister Moshe Arens, the paper added.

PLO

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf arrived in Moscow at the head of a high-level Fatah delegation, Moscow radio's Arabic service reported. Meanwhile, tension within Fatah has eased pending the outcome of the Syrian Ba'th Party committee of inquiry which has heard the views of both the Fatah leadership and the dissidents, AFP reported. Syrian Defense Squads Commander Colonel Rif'at al-Asad recently assured PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat that Syria had nothing to do with the occupation of Fatah offices in Damascus, the Lebanese daily *As-Safir*, quoted by Jordan's *Ad-Dustur*,reported. In another development 'Arafat denied reports that he intends to establish his headquarters in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, and said he visited the city because it may be a target for an Israeli attack, *As-Safir* noted.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus after concluding talks in Libya with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Damascus television reported.

Egypt

Defense Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah discussed military cooperation during talks in Paris with the French defense minister and senior military industry officials, Cairo radio and MENA reported.

Sudan

Sudan has decided to close 22 embassies abroad because of the country's financial circumstances, Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak announced in a statement reported by SUNA.

Maghreb Affairs

Following Mauritanian President Khouna Ould Haydala's talks in Algiers with his Algerian counterpart Chadli Bendjedid, an Algerian-Mauritanian joint communique broadcast by Algiers radio said the two sides had reaffirmed their support for a "Greater Arab Maghreb."

Iran

Envoy in Gulf — A Foreign Ministry official held talks in Abu Dhabi with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, according to a report by Tehran radio's Arabic service, while WAKH reported he met with Susur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE president's office, and subsequently left for Kuwait.

Kurdish Operations — Security forces advanced 32 km inside the area held by "counterrevolutionaries" in the Mahabad-Sar Dasht-Bukan triangle, capturing more than 20 villages and dealing "heavy blows" to the rebels, Tehran radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Foreign Minister Returns From Maldives, Sri Lanka
BK311720 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 31 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha has returned to Dhaka tonight at the end of his official visits to the Maldives and Sri lanka.

Ershad Set To Visit SFRY in 'First Half' of June
BK230629 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] The chief martial law administrator, Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad, will pay an official and friendly visit to Yugoslavia during the first half of next month. A Foreign Office announcement in Dhaka last night said the visit is at the invitation of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the president of Federal Executive Council, Mrs Milka Planinc.

Briefs

Ambassador to Brazil — The government has decided to appoint Air Commodore Moinul Islam, charge d'affaires in the Embassy of Bangladesh, Brasilia, as ambassador to Brazil, reports BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSTHA. [Excerpt] [Dhaka *The Bangladesh Observer* in English 10 May 83 p 1 BK]

Assistance From Netherlands — Dhaka, May 20, (BSS) — The Netherlands will be providing dfl 84 million (about 28 million U.S. dollar) to Bangladesh as financial and technical assistance for 1983. The partially united grant will be utilised for the development of water resources, gas and health-care and multitude of other sectors benefitting the rural population. In addition to annual grant for 1983, an amount of dfl 20 million was made available from previous year's balance. [Excerpt] [Dhaka BSS in English 0620 GMT 20 May 83 BK]

Diesel From USSR — Dhaka May 17, BSS — Bangladesh will receive 40,000 tons of high speed diesel (HSD) from Soviet Union this year. A contract in this regard has been signed between Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation and Soyuznefteeksport, Moscow, for the supply of the petroleum product during the second half of the current year. The purchase will be financed under Bangladesh-USSR Barter Protocol No-12. [Text] [Dhaka BSS in English 0613 GMT 17 May 83 BK]

Trade Cooperation With Turkey — Dhaka, May 24, BSS — Bangladesh and Turkey recently signed an agreement in Ankara for widening mutually advantageous cooperation between them in the field of trade and commerce. The president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Mr. M.S. Islam, and the president of the Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industries of Turkey, Mr. Mehmet Yazar, signed the agreement on May 13 in the Turkish capital. The agreement provides for wider scope of cooperation between the two chambers to mutual advantage which would help increase trade and economic relations between Bangladesh and Turkey. During his stay in Turkey, Mr. Islam had meetings with the Turkish prime minsiter, commerce minister and state minister for external finance and discussed with them opportunities offered by Bangladesh for foreign investment and the facilities provided at the export processing zone at Chittagong, 300 kilometres from here. [Text] [Dhaka BSS in English 0620 GMT 24 May 83 BK]

ROK Adivsory Council Delegation — Dhaka, May 29 (BSS) — The visiting high-power delegation of Advisory Council of State Affairs of the Republic of Korea led by Mr Yi Yong-Sop had a meeting today with the president of the Council of Ministers, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad. The three-member delegation, which arrived here yesterday, during the meeting with Gen. Ershad discussed matters of bilateral interests, specially the scope of increasing cooperation in different fields between the two countries. During its five-day stay in the country, the delegation, besides meeting government leaders, will visit east-west power interconnector, a project completed by a ROK company. The delegation's visit is part of a good-will tour which, will take it to Pakistan and Nepal. [Dhaka BSS in English 0630 GMT 29 May 83 BK]

Danish Aid Accord — Dhaka, May 28 (BSS) — Denmark will provide Bangladesh with an assistance of about 32 million dollars for the fiscal of 1983-84 beginning July 1 to finance the implemention of certain projects. An agreement to this effect was concluded between Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and Bangladesh Government here today. The Danish assistance will be available for projects, in rural development, fisheries, food and agriculture, industry, health, rural electrification and rural water supply and sanitation. [Text] [Dhaka BSS in English 0930 GMT 28 May 83 BK]

Development Projects — Sixty-one projects under the annual development program for the current financial year have been approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council. The committee met in Dhaka on 25 May with the minister for finance and planning, A.M.A. Muhith, in the chair. The projects include 23 in agriculture sector, 10 in industrial and 4 in rural development. An amount of 31.57 billion taka including 14.52 billion taka in foreign exchange will be spent for these projects. [Excerpt] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 26 May 83 BK]

Loan for Farmers — Agriculture Minister A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan has said the government will allocate 8.64 billion taka for distribution among farmers as agriculture loans next year. Addressing the second working session of the 2-day national seminar on people's participation in the implementation of the government's programs in Dhaka on 26 May, the minister said union and districtlevel committees would be involved in sanctioning and recovering the agricultural loans. [Excerpt] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 26 May 83 BK]

Gandhi Comments on Retaliation If Attacked, Assam

BK011617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] Mrs Gandhi has said that India will retaliate with strength if anyone attacks the country. She, however, reiterated the country's desire for friendship and amity with all, especially with the countries in the immediate neighborhood. She said that the biggest battle India seeks to win is that of peace and friendship.

Addressing public meetings in different places, including Sopore, Anantnag, Pulwana, and Baramulla in Jammu and Kashmir today, Mrs Gandhi said that some foreign powers are opposed to a strong India and against its unity. There are also some people within the country who are out to disrupt the country's solidarity. These foreign powers do not want India and its neighbors to normalize their relations and build friendly ties. It was, therefore, necessary to strive to make India strong to defeat the designs of these powers, she added.

Referring to Assam, Mrs Gandhi said that misleading reports have been circulated. She said there is no communal issue there, but it is a political problem which the government wants to solve peacefully.

Spokesman Criticizes Williamsburg Summit 'Failure'

BK020925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Jun 83

[Text] India has criticized the Williamsburg summit of seven industrialized nations for its failure to respond to the call of the nonaligned and other developing nations for restructuring the present international economic order. An official spokesman said in New Delhi that global negotiations are essential for this. He expressed the hope that these aspects would receive due attention of the advanced countries at the forthcoming Sixth Conference of UNCTAD opening in Belgrade on Monday. He said the conference is the first major opportunity for such a dialogue and India is approaching it in a spirit of constructive cooperation. He hoped that it would lead to positive results.

He appreciated some other decisions taken at Williamsburg in favor of developing countries like dismantling of trade barriers [words indistinct] level to developing nations. However, he stressed that an international conference on money and finance is urgent and indispensable.

Opposition Leaders Hold 2-Day Strategy Session

BK010737 Hong Kong AFP in English 0715 GMT 1 Jun 83

[By Govindan Unmy]

[Text] New Delhi, June 1 (AFP) — A weekend conference of opposition leaders has focused attention on relations between states and the federal government but failed in its main aim of forging a united front against Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, political commentators said here today.

The two-day meeting at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, avoided mention of the various issues dividing the opposition and stressed the need to give states more powers, particularly those ruled by non-congress parties.

Fourteen opposition leaders attended, including Mwmeka Gandhi, Mrs Gandhi's widowed daughter-in-law who heads the newly-formed Rashtriya Sanjay Manch. She told reporters at the end of the meeting: "It was an exercise in futility." She said it had failed to chalk out any plans to oust Mrs Gandhi's government.

Commentators said that no leader suggested the forming of electoral alliances to draw votes away from the ruling Congress (I) Party in the next general election in January 1985.

On the positive side was the agreement to set up an opposition council and hold further meetings in New Delhi and Srinagar, capital of Kashmir, the commentators said. No schedule was set for the meetings, but they might take place at the end of this year and the third quarter of next year, leaders said.

No other leaders were present when the instigator of the get-together, former movie idol and now chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, N. T. Rama Rao, read the concluding statement to the press. The statement mainly attacked the federal government for its failure to check divisions among the country's different racial and religious communities.

The government had failed to find "timely and acceptable solutions to certain urgent problems of different people in different areas," it said.

The statement also accused the federal government of encroaching on the states' powers and said this tendency should cease.

Mrs Gandhi's reaction to the meeting was to call it an "unholy alliance." she said it would not succeed in its objective.

Congress Party Working President Kamlapathi Tripathi said that the opposition was trying to unite "not on the basis of any policy or programme" and that each party held conflicting views.

Press comment on the meeting varied. *The Times of India* described it as a "washout," while *The Indian Express* said that considering the participant's diverse views on many issues and the clash of interests "it is significant they came together on the same platform."

The *Times* also saw it as "an attempt by Mr Rama Rao to project himself on the national scene."

However, *The Statesman* warned: "Mrs Gandhi would be mistaken to dismiss the meeting as a non-event. The Vijayawada initiative may gather momentum and acquire a clearer purpose. The views expressed on centre-state relations are already part of such a process," it said.

Akali Dal Leader Calls Party Meeting on 5 June

BK011621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] The Akali Dal president has called an urgent meeting of the party high command in Amritsar on the 5th of this month. This follows receipt of the invitation from the home minister, Mr P. C. Sethi, for resuming talks on the Punjab problem.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Darbara Singh, told newsmen in Chandigarh today that it will be better if Sant Longowal himself takes part in the talks in Delhi. This can expedite matters, he added.

Areas in Assam Districts Declared Disturbed

BK020941 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Jun 83

[Text] In Assam, the Golaghat police station area in Sibsagar District has been declared as disturbed under the Assam Disturbed Areas Act of 1965 for a period of 3 months.

By another notification, the state government declared 57 police station areas in the Districts of Nowgong, Darrang, Lakhimpur, Kamrup, Goalpara, Sibsagar, and Dibrugarh as disturbed for a further period of 3 months. The step has been taken for the restoration and maintenance of public order in these areas.

West Bengal Local Elections Results Updated

BK020909 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Jun 83

[Text] In the West Bengal Gram Panchayat [local body] elections, the Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI-M] has bagged 19,674 seats, while the Congress-I secured 11,843. The position of other parties are: Forward Bloc, 763; Revolutionary Socialist Party, 906; Janata Party, 36; Bharatiya Janata Party,24; independents and others, 2,481.

The CPI-M is ahead of other parties in 14 districts out of 15. The Congress-I has taken a lead over the CPI-M in Murshidabad District. So far, 36,243 results have been declared out of the total Gram Panchayat seats of 46,050.

Pakistan-India Ministerial Commission Meets

India's Rao Arrives

BK010645 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao arrived in Islamabad this morning to lead his country's delegation to the first meeting of Pakistan-India Joint Ministerial Commission. The meeting is due to be held a short while from now. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and other high officials of the Foreign Office welcomed him at the airport.

In a statement at the airport, Narasimha Rao said the establishment of a joint commission was a significant event in relations between the two countries. He said he was confident that both governments were determined not only to consider the joint commission as a good step, but use it to successfully widen cooperation and understanding between the two countries. [sentence as heard].

He said he hoped to meet Sahabzada Yaqub Khan separately and hold talks with him on matters of mutual interest.

When asked whether Pakistan's proposal for a no-war pact will come up for discussion, he said the talks will cover items on the agenda of the meeting as well as matters of mutual interest.

Delhi Reports on Proceedings

BK010943 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] The Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission was inaugurated in Islamabad today with a solemn affirmation by both the countries to give a fresh impetus to their efforts for a meaningful mutual cooperation.

The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the Pakistan foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, said the dialogue between the two countries now enters a new and more intensive phase with the formation of the joint commission.

Mr Rao, who flew to Islamabad this morning, said in the inaugural session that cooperation can transcend whatever differences the two nations may have. In this (?phase), the joint commission has a sense of purpose. The younger generations in India and Pakistan are no longer inhibited by the various factors of the earlier generations.

Mr Yaqub Khan said with good will and sincerity this modest step toward cooperation and understanding can fulfill the expectations of the people on both sides of the border. In the larger context,the joint commission will serve the cause of cooperation already existing among the seven South Asian countries. He noted that salutary progress has already been made in the normalization of good neighborly relations between India and Pakistan in recent years.

The joint commission is setting up four subcommissions to deal with various matters.

The All India Radio special correspondent, Manohar Thakru, reports from Islamabad that before the inauguration of the meeting, the two foreign ministers exchanged instruments of ratification of the agreement setting up the joint commission.

Mr Narasimha Rao had a brief meeting with Mr Yaqub Khan at the Foreign Office before they were joined by the delegations for the full commission meeting.

Mr Narasimha Rao expressed concern over the illness of President Ziaul Haq and regretted he would not be able to call on him. He prayed for his speedy recovery.

Earlier, on arrival in Islamabad, the external affairs minister was received by his Pakistan counterpart, Mr Yaqub Khan, the foreign secretary, Mr Niaz Naik, and others. He said at the airport that India considers the establishment of the joint commission as an important event in the history of relations between the two countries. He said it is a precursor of greater cooperation and closer understanding.

Yaqub Khan, Rao Speak

BK011115 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] The joint Pakistan-India ministerial commission began its first meeting in Islamabad today. The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and the Indian foreign minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, are leading the delegations of their respective countries.

Inaugurating the meeting, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan emphasized that trust and confidence should be the watchword in their future dealings for liberating themselves from prejudices and from a past haunted by hatred and feared by strife. He said grace and vision should be their guiding light for dispelling the miasma of rancor and discrimination which have tended to poison and corrode their relations.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that it is with these objectives in mind that the Governments of Pakistan and India have under consideration Pakistan's proposal for the conclusion of an agreement on nonaggression and nonuse of force and the Indian proposal for the treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation. He proposed the setting up of four subcommissions which will not only identify specific proposals for the enhancement of cooperation in agreed fields but also exchange views on some steps which can be taken at the joint commission's meeting.

The Indian foreign minister in his speech said that India earnestly sought to achieve with Pakistan normal and friendly links as between two sovereign, equal, and independent neighbours. He said they wanted cooperation with Pakistan in the largest possible number of spheres of activities for the benefit of the people of the two countries. He said he had come to Islamabad with the expectation that the joint commission's deliberations will make a concrete and substantial contribution toward creating new bonds between their two countries.

Spokesmen Describe Session

BK011603 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Excerpts] The first session of the joint Pakistan-India ministrial commission was held in Islamabad today. Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, who are leading their countries delegations, in their inaugural addresses emphasized the need to create an atmosphere of trust and confidence.

The four subcommissions set up by the joint Pakistan-India ministrial commission at its closed door session in Islamabad today met separately this afternoon to consider various matters. A spokesman of the Pakistan delegation, accompanied by a spokesman of the Indian delegation, told newsmen that the first subcommission concerned with economic affairs has been divided into two different working groups. Various proposals were put forward to promote cooperation in the field of health, improve communications, reduce postal rates, increase railways facilities, formalize cooperation in the field of agriculture, review the prospects of cooperation in industrial development and relax shipping terms between the two countries.

The second subcommission reviewed prospects for increasing trade between the two countries and various measures to expand [words indistinct] in specific sectors.

The third subcommission considered matters relating to the promotion of cooperation in the fields of information, education, culture, and sports. The Indian delegation expressed interest in the Pakistan experiment in open university.

The fourth subcommission agreed among other things on issuing multiple entry visas to traders. Special attention was given to simplify the procedure for police investigation.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao held talks for 90 minutes in Islamabad today. They exchanged views on bilateral matters, regional issues, and international issues of mutual concern. This was stated by spokesmen of the Pakistan and Indian delegations to the joint ministerial commission at a joint press conference in Islamabad this evening. They said views were exchanged in a frank and friendly manner on the Pakistan offer on a no-war pact and the Indian proposal of a treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation with regard to bilateral relations.

The Pakistan foreign minister briefed his Indian counterpart on the outcome of his recent visits to Beijing, Paris, London, and Washington on the Afghanistan issue. He also mentioned the next round of indirect talks on Afghanistan scheduled to be held under UN supervision in Geneva from 16 June.

The Indian foreign minister welcomed the efforts for a comprehensive solution of the Afghanistan issue. Narasimha Rao apprised the Pakistan foreign minister of details about the measures being taken to implement the decisions taken at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit. Both foreign ministers agreed that it is important to continue consultations in this connection. They particularly agreed that, as proposed by the Seventh Nonaligned Summit, it is very important that all heads of state of the member nations of the United Nations participate in the 38th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

About regional cooperation in South Asia, the two foreign ministers exchanged views on the forthcoming foreign ministers level conference in New Delhi in this connection and the foreign secretaries level preparatory meeting.

The Pakistan foreign minister was assisted in the talks by the foreign secretary, additional foreign secretary, and the Pakistan ambassador in India. The Indian foreign minister's delegation included Secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry Natwar Singh and Indian ambassador in Islamabad.

Briefs

TV Booster Inaugurated — A new TV booster of Pakistan Television Corporation was inaugurated by the chairman of the Federal Advisory Council, Khwaja Mohammad Safdar, at Pasrur on 31 May. The booster was completed by the engineers of the Pakistan Television Corporation at a cost of 6 million rupees. Radio Pakistan Lahore representative says it will cover a population of about 3 and 1/2 million people who will be able to watch the TV programs direct from Lahore TV center. [Excerpts] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 31 May 83 BK]

Agreement With Hungary — Pakistan and Hungary signed in Islamabad on 30 May an agreement on cooperation for the exchange of scientific, technical, and economic experience. The agreement provides for exchange of scientific delegations, experts, and other personnel as well as grant of scholarships aimed at promoting technical and scientific cooperation and strengthening friendly relations between the two countries. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 May 83 BK]

SRI LANKA

Press Release on Bangladesh's Doha Visit Cited

BK011001 Dhaka BSS in English 0915 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] Dhaka, June 1 (BSS) — Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have expressed concern at the growing superpower confrontation in the Indian Ocean.

They have also agreed to continue their close cooperation for ensuring the convention of the proposed UN Conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo in 1984 as a first step in implementing the declaration on Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

A press release issued at the end of the four-day visit of Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha to Sri Lanka said the two countries reviewed the prevailing situation concerning security and stability in the region.

Mr Doha and the host, Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed, held talks on a wide range of regional and international issues and reviewed the bilateral relations.

The foreign ministers expressed their conviction that the Non-aligned Movement constituted a just, positive and independent factor for universal peace and security.

They have agreed to set up a joint committee soon to identify new areas of trade and cooperation for further development of bilateral ties.

Mr Shamsud Doha, who also visited the Organisation of Islamic Conference Secretariat in Jidda, returned home yesterday.

Colombo Reports Terrorists Kill 2 Air Force Men

BK011331 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] Two air force personnel were killed by terrorists in Vavuniya this morning. Another airman and a passerby were seriously injured in the shooting which took place in the Vavuniya bazaar. A police spokesman told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation that about five terrorists attacked a jeep which had gone to the bazaar with two Air Force men to purchase certain [words indistinct] then fired, killing the driver of the vehicle (Perara) and Airman Gunasekera on the spot.

A police party from the Vavuniya police on receiving information rushed to the spot and fired at the (?terrorists) and captured two of them who had received serious gunshot injuries. They are now [word indistinct] in the (Anuradhapura) hospital.

The police have also recovered a submachine gun. It probably had been used by the terrorists in their attack.

(Anuradhapura) police sources said that the two injured terrorists were now being operated on.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,333

LD011747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Communique No 1,333 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday, exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued sporadically on most of the western fronts of the country. The combatants of Islam maintained their fire superiority and guarded their defensive positions,opening defensive fire against the Saddamist forces' fire and inflicting losses and casualties on them. Also on one of the western fronts, our combat patrols penetrated the enemy's defense lines, carried out reconnaissance, and managed to set fire to and destroy 2 trucks and 14 light and heavy weapon trenches of the Iraqi forces. After killing about 30 aggressive Saddamist mercenaries, they returned safely to their bases.

In the Ilam, Qasr-e Shirin and (Bayat) border areas, the heroes of the Gendarmerie fired on enemy positions and destroyed at least 4 trenches and foxholes of the Saddamist forces together with their crews.

On the Marivan front, the heavy artillery fire of the combatants of the Ground Forces on the enemy's positions and assembly centers in the (Shonam) area and the Beydarvas Garrison inflicted considerable losses on the Iraqi forces and a number of their servicemen were killed or wounded.

On the southern fronts, the victorious forces of Islam secured their guarded and defensive positions and dispatched patrol groups, bringing the enemy's movements and operational activities under their control. By opening defensive fire, they inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, exchanges of fire continued between our forces and the Iraqi forces. They were more intense in the Pol-e Now region in Khorramshahr.

Yesterday, the city of Abadan continued to come under the artillery and heavy weapons' fire of Saddam's mercenary warmongers. As a result, one of our beloved compatriots was martyred and four others wounded.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Further Report on 31 May Downing of Iraqi Plane

LD011857 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran report that during an intrusion by several enemy fighter aircraft on the residential areas of several cities in the west of our Islamic homeland, one Sukhoy-22 aircraft of the Ba'thist, Zionist Iraqi Army was shot down at 1730 yesterday by the air defense units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the quick-flying aircraft of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Javanrud area. First Lieutenant 'Amir Muhammad Mahdi Matti, who was piloting the downed enemy aircraft, was taken prisoner by the victorious forces of Islam. At the downing of this aircraft, the other intruding enemy aircraft were forced to flee.

Officials Comment on UN Delegation's Visit,POW's

LD012112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Excerpts] According to our correspondent, Seyed Rajaie-Khorassani, the permanent ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the United Nations, and Kazempur-Ardabili, economic and international affairs under secretary of our country's Foreign Affairs Ministry, held a news conference yesterday and talked about the trip of the UN delegation to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Foreign and domestic correspondents participated in this conference.

Rajaie-Khorassani said: This delegation came to Iran at the invitation of the Islamic Republic to observe the outcome of the war imposed upon the oppressed people of our country by the blasphemous Saddamists and to prepare a detailed report for the United Nations. He added: The Islamic Republic of Iran suggested that this delegation also visit Iraq because Saddam has accused us several times of attacking its cities. He is retaliating by attacking our residential areas and our innocent people. We suggested that the United Nations should send a delegation to come and see how baseless Saddam's claims are and to observe the horrific and inhumane crimes committed by him.

Commenting on the estimates made by this delegation about the level of damage inflicted by the Iraqi forces, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the United Nations said: The delegation came to study only the extent of the damage and it had nothing to do with other issues.

Regarding the delegation's reaction after visiting Baneh, he said: Fortunately, the delegation visited Baneh at a time when the blood of the innocent martyrs was still fresh on the city walls, the corpses of the martyrs had not yet been buried, many innocent people were still trapped under the debris, and the wounded were being taken to the hospital. The delegation only managed to see some of the countless number of wounded children in one hospital. Of course, the delegation did not take any particular stand.

In reply to a question as to what the next step would be after this visit, he said: As far as possible, our next step will be to inform the UN General Assembly about the crimes committed against our people. We believe that the UN General Assembly will be able to adopt a more positive stand if the facts are made clearer.

Commenting on the role of this delegation in the peace negotiations and its estimation of the extent of the damage, Rajaie-Khorassani said: The trip of this delegation has nothing to do with the peace negotiations. The Iraqis' peace proposal has already been answered by the clinched fists of our people.

During the new conference, Kazempur-Ardabili replied to a question on the Iraqi threat to again attack Iranian cities.He was

also asked whether the peace missions will again visit Iran.Kazempur-Ardabili said: The Government of the Islamic Republic has given top priority to the war in its plans and we reiterate that the conditions we announced at the start of the imposed war should be met. He added: We have never attacked the populated cities of Iraq and we will never do so.

Regarding the rumors that some Iraqi POW's have been killed in Iranian prison camps, he said: There are more than 30,000 Iraqi POW's in Iran who have been identified and who received identity cards. There are over 15,000 unregistered POW'sand the International Red Cross is aware of their existence because it delivers mail from their families. In the statement of the International Red Cross, which was also distributed by the world media, a reference has been made to the (?destruction) of the residential areas and capturing of civilians by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. The latest report about the International Red Cross visits was that representatives of this organization last visited the Iranian POW's in Iraq in November 1982.

Finally, in connection with the release of POW's from both countries, he said: As the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced, we are ready to hand over 6,800 Iraqi POW'sto the Iraqi regime in return for the release of 6,800 Iranian POWS from Iraqi prisons. If Iraq announces its readiness, we will do this promptly and we will implement our decision through international organizations.

Reportage on Third World Energy Symposium

30 May Opening

LD301230 Tehran IRNA in English 0907 GMT 30 May 83

[Excerpt] Tehran, May 30, (IRNA) — The symposium on the outlook for energy in the Third World started its four-day work here this morning at 10:30 am (local time) with an inaugural message of President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i read by presidential adviser Mostafa Mirsalim.

The symposium, attended by scholars from 22 countries and six international organisations, will study some 100 articles, 40 of which have been compiled by Iranian professors and scientists.

Besides Iran, other participating countries include Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Democratic Republic of Korea, Libya, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Tanzania, Turkey, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Syria, Venezuela, West Germany, and Yugoslavia. The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the United Nations Organisation, UNIDO, ESCAP, UNITAR, and OLADE are also attending the symposium.

President Khamene'i Message

LD301236 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 30 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 30 (IRNA) — It will be appreciable, if this symposium could find ways of getting out of this vicious circle of "limited economic potentials, in access to energy sources and lack of modern economic bases resulting from the absence of accumulated capital." By pointing to the best methods of energy exploitation at the highest economic levels for the countries of the Third World," said President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i in his message addressing the symposium on the outlook for energy in the Third World inaugurated in Tehran today.

In that message, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran called on the Third World countries to exchange knowledge, experience and expertise with each other and to carry out joint scientific, research projects, proclaiming that the Islamic Republic of Iran proposes the setting up of a center for energy data and information in the framework of cooperation and coordination among Third World countries.

In his message, the president stressed that adopting a joint strategy for the investigation of the proper role and contribution of the developing countries of the world in the field of energy, environment control, etc. was necessary in the framework of regional cooperation, to continue the work of the symposium in the coming years and embark on joint actions to combat technological monopoly in the areas of resources, discovery, exploitation and research.

The president then called for the formation of a separate sympsoium in order to pursue the realisation of the objectives of the new world economic order, the stoppage of the "brain drain," and native capital, and the resolutions of the non-aligned conference, and Group 77 at the United Nations for the benefit of the Third World countries.

He then emphasised that the nations of the Third World could increase their potentials in economic fields, technical areas, and international arena through cooperation with each other, and determined efforts manifested by their own thinkers and governments authorities for exploiting their God-given resources for their own independence and progress rather than transferring them, wholly and cheaply to the industrialised world. He said any delay in that process be it from the industrial countries, or from the officials of the Third World countries would widen the gap between the developing and developed worlds and hence intensify the international crises.

In conclusion, the president hoped for the lessening of dependence upon the polar worlds of capital, energy and technology on behalf of the Third World countries, through the solutions suggested by the symposium towards the healthy transfer of technology and the investigations of capital accomulation methods.

Prime Minister's Speech

LD301237 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 30 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 30 (IRNA) — The countries of the Third World should pool all their efforts to eliminate the superpower dominance from their countries in all aspects including energy and hence find means to attain full independence in matters pertinent to energy," said Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in his speech addressing the inaugurating session on the outlook of energy in the Third World.

Musavi-Khamene'i said the superpowers tried to keep the countries of the Third World, which he said were kept backward and underdeveloped by the world arrogants, from launching any plannings for their economic progresses.

He said the main factor which kept the people of the underdeveloped countries away from making any progrses towards their self-sufficiency, was the wrong belief advocated by the superpowers among them that they were inferior to the West intellectually.

He said the cultural deadends rising from neocolonialism and the infiltration of the superpowers in the political foundations of Third World countries would all pave the way for the superpowers to continue their dominance.

Musavi said the scientific progress of the superpowers should be regarded by the Third World as a means towards their own development rather than for the sake of the betterment of the rich countries.

"Although energy is the means for the progress of the Third World, it has always been employed by the the arrogants for their own development," added the prime minister.

He then called on the Third World countries to stop relying on the Western sources of data for their energy resources and instead rely on their own statistics and augment their efforts in that avenue for better analysis of the situation.

He said the Third World countries should be inspired by Iran, which in its brief life after the victory of the Islamic Revolution not only did not construe independence as lack of attention to the Western technological progresses, but also tried to use them as means for its own progress devoid of all dependencies it brought after it, in a framework which suited Iranian criteria and system of values.

In conclusion, the prime minister said that many inequalities in the world today will be eliminated through exploitation of the natural resources benefitting the oppressed, deprived people of the world.

PRC Delegate's Comments
GF311700 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 31 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA — The deputy oil minister of the People's Republic of China, Zhao Zongnai, told IRNA here today that China welcomed the highly useful and constructive move of the Islamic Republic of Iran to bring about cooperation among the Third World countries in solving energy problems.

Zhao, who is heading his country's delegation attending the Third World Energy Symposium in Tehran, added that the Third World countries possess vast energy resources and the superpowers have derived huge benefits from these resources through colonial plans. He went on to say that the ongoing energy symposium and its aims can create an important barrier for preventing the superpowers from exploiting energy resources of the Third World countries.

Zhao Zongnai, added that the Islamic Republic of Iran has a great deal of experiences concerning energy problems and China is willing to benefit from these experiences in the field of energy and in expanding its cooperation and relations with Iran.

Talking about the world energy conference due to be held in New Delhi next September, he said if the current Third World energy symposium achieved good results then these countries can have a more active participation in New Delhi.

OPEC Official's Interview
GF311754 Tehran IRNA in English 1647 GMT 31 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA — The head of the delegation of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Reymond Adebayo Sadare, attending the Third World energy symposium here expressed his viewpoints on the holding of the symposium by the Islamic Republic of Iran in an exclusive interview with IRNA today.

He said that the holding of this symposium by Iran shows that the Third World countries are now thinking of themselves in order to find out how they can produce and use their energy. This symposium, he added, has also created a great opportunity for the said countries to get together and discuss a common issue among themselves.

Sadare went on to say that the symposium established an important basis for the participant countries so that each of these countries could bring up its problems in order to cooperate with each other through a multilateral study. Every country, he added, has its own problems, and the energy resources of these countries are different from each other. Some of the participants, he said, have valuable experiences about energy which can be provided to others which are less experienced.

Sadare then noted that Iran has very rich experiences and information in the field of oil exploration which can help other oil rich countries in this symposium.

He further commented that the Tehran energy symposium should not be the only meeting held by the Third World countries but rather it should be repeated monthly or quarterly. The Islamic Republic of Iran, he added, can increase such contacts as it has ample facilities.

NVOI Commentaries Criticize Authorities

TA272010 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian at 1730 GMT on 27 May broadcasts a commentary entitled: "The Story of the Snake and the Man." It says: The problem of many of those who today are in power brings to mind the story of the man who one morning saw a snake that was nearly frozen due to the cold weather. The man felt sorry for the snake and carried it in his arms. But as soon as the snake felt warm and revived, it sunk its fangs into the man and he instantly died. The issue of the current rightist rulers and the people has an amazing similarity to the story of the snake and the man.

More than 4 years have passed since the victory of the Iranian Revolution. The passing of these years has revealed the faces of those elements who despite all their demagogic claims have so far in practice accomplished nothing to benefit the people.

"Now these gentlemen are feeling very concerned at the realization of this fact. It is for this reason too that these days authorities of the Islamic Government have become very frantic. Although they are childishly praising themselves with regard to the successful arrest of leaders and members of the so-called treacherous Tudeh Party, in every step, they are displaying their impotence and their ethical and moral decline in the most disgraceful manner. There is no other solution. This time the pepple saw with their own eyes certain spotted snakes that at the first opportunity sank their venomous fangs into the body of the true patriots. They saw mean devils who had disguised themselves as angels. The people used to judge the regime of the accursed shah, too, on the basis of its antipeople acts. The authorities have become very angry because it has been said that in the Islamic Government the oppressed have become more oppressed and the arrogant more arrogant. The situation has reached such a stage that the so-called deputies of the nation have openly embarked on threatening those who are stating these facts. They are again resorting to the most brutal means. They are accusing them of being anti-Islamic and are saying that there is no other way to treat those who are sowing mischief except with force. Resorting to force is tantamount to tyranny."

"After so much ethical and moral decline and succumbing to so much unprecedented wickedness, are these authorities able to restore their lost prestige by using force or by employing new tricks and ploys and by utilizing Koranic verses and narratives? Can one hope that henceforth both our homeland's people and other peoples will be able to maintain any credibilty and value for these elements? Life and experience give a negative response to these questions, although the superficials and foolish individuals and supporters of the prosperous stratum care nothing for life, experience, and lessons of history."

Friday Prayers Assailed

TA300939 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice ofIran in Persian at 1730 GMT on 29 May broadcasts a commentary entitled: "In Friday Prayer Ceremonies, Facts Must Be Stated to the People." It says: In the first weeks and months following the victory of the Iranian people, Friday prayers enjoyed a special grandeur and dignity. In Friday prayers, talks centered on acute political and social problems. Previously, discussion about them in public gatherings had been forbidden. Later, it became obvious that the purpose of some of the speakers at Friday prayer ceremonies was to preoccupy the people. "But, in these very Friday prayers, the majority of the people became acquainted with the true nature of the leadership — a leadership that only chants slogans, a leadership that retreats from the positions of the revolution, a leadership that has made itself the mere enforcer of the will of the major capitalists and landlords, and finally a leadership that postpones the enjoyment of material and spiritual blessings for the toilers to the other world only and to the appearance of his holiness."

"Why are no statements made in Friday prayers about the imam's affirmation of the role of workers and about the black role of the enemies of these very workers? Is the duty of Friday prayers in Islam other than acquainting the people with the facts? The people are amazed that elements such as Mahdavi-Kani are appointed as imams of Friday prayers, that is, a person who has worn a shroud in defense of capitalism. They are even more amazed as to why the hope of the world's oppressed is supporting with so much emphasis each and every member of the Council of Guardians. If all the issues that have amazed the people are recounted the discussion would be lengthy. But what has been occurring in recent months in Friday prayers is particularly amazing, disgusting, and intolerable because they have chosen the least personable and intelligent elements to speak in Friday prayers against the purest and noblest sons of this country."

Successes Against 'Counterrevolutionaries' Cited

LD281728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 83

[Text] According to reports from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada base, the victorious combatants of Islam have succeeded in recapturing the (Qasr) and Jalian heights and in clearing the remaining 13 km of this route of the presence of the pro-Iraqi counterrevolutionaries in a series of coordinated operations aimed at reopening the Piranshah-Mahabad axis. All of this region is now under the control of our forces. The enemy suffered a number of killed or wounded and two of the armed rebels were arrested by the combatants of Islam.

The warriors of the army of monotheism also succeeded in clearing the border village of Darduk, situated at the mouth of one of the routes used to penetrate our Islamic homeland, in a series of operations carried out in the (Suma-ye Derazu) near Purumiyeh. While killing nine of the armed assailants and wounding a number of them, our forces destroyed the counterrevolutionaries' command base in that village.

Also, a group of Iraqi Muslim Kurdish peshmerga succeeded in ambushing a number of counterrevolutionaries on the edge of the border zone of Baneh. Six of them were arrested and eight were killed. A number of personal firearms were captured as booty. One of those captured was a member of the hypocrites organization and the rest were mercenaries from the Democratic Party.

Further Reports

LD311757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 May 83

[Text] According to reports from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada, may peace be upon him, base and from the center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, during an operation in the Bani sector over the past 3 days in in the continuing Be'sat operation which cleansed large areas of the western border regions from the filthy presence of the agents of world blasphemy

and the Iraqi Ba'thist Zionists, the self-sacrificing forces of Islam liberated the two important border heights of (Banuan) and (Shahashkuh) and the villages of (Balakeh), (Kanbesur), and (Banuan).These areas had been in the hands of counterrevolutionaries affiliated with the East and the West since the victory of the Islamic Revolution. The flag of the Islamic Republic has been hoisted over those regions.

During this operation, the combatants of Islam inflicted casualties on the counterrevolutionaries and captured large quantities of their arms and ammunition.

Also, during another operation which led to the liberation of two sensitive heights of (Badresh) and (Gardaneh-e Zardabad), considerable quantities of equipment belonging to the counterrevolutionaries were captured by the forces of Islam, and several of them were killed.

At the end of the operation, 30 of the deceived members of the apostate minigroup surrendered to the forces of Islam, bringing their weapons and equipment.

'Powerful Blows' Dealt

LD011744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] A report from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada — may peace be upon him — base and the joint operational center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps says that the victorious combatants of the Islamic army in two phases of operations which continued until this morning reached the (Digcheh) pass on the Mahabad-Sar Dasht axis, succeeded in advancing 32 km inside the positions of the counterrevolutionaries subservient to global arrogance and the venal agents of Zionist Saddam within the Mahabad-Sar Dasht-Bukan triangle, and inflicted heavy blows on the minigroups subservient to both East and West.

During these glorious operations, the Islamic Combatants killed dozens of armed outlaws, liberated more than 20 hamlets in the Kurdish-inhabited regions of our Islamic homeland from the occupation of the filthy subservient agents of East and West, and inflicted powerful blows to them.

Among the losses suffered by the enemy during these operations was the destruction of several 105-mm cannons, jeeps, vehicles, and large numbers of individual equipment. In addition, seven counterrevolutionary elements were captured by the Islamic combatants.

Ayatollahs Meet With Majlis Deputies in Qom

GF281700 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 28 May 83

[Text] Qom, May 28, IRNA — On the eve of the birthday anniversary of Imam Mahdi, God bless him and all his scion, the 12th imam of the Shi'ites, a group of 70 Majlis deputies met here on Friday with Ayatollahs Golpayegani, Mar'ashi Najafi, Montazeri, and Meshkini.

In a meeting with Ayatollah Golpayegani, first a report on the activities of the Majlis since its formation in the spring of 1980 was given by Vice-Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Yazdi. Then Ayatollah Golpayegani said today the dignity of the nation was in the hand of the Majlis and it should administer the affairs of the country in a way pleasing to Imam Mahdi. However, he added, God forbid, if the Majlis was deviate in its work then it would face the wrath of God and Imam Mahdi. You should not do something which, God forbid, would damage Islam, he added.

Ayatollah Golpayegani further said that although there were high-ranking religious scholars in the early days of the Majlis in the previous regime, but the truth of the matter was that the initiators of the former regime and Majlis did not believe in religion. He said that with the grace of God, Imam Khomeyni founded the Islamic Republic with the help and solidarity of other ulema and people and no foreign force had any hand in the creation of the republic. He said the Majlis should pass laws which bring the satisfaction of the people.

In a separate meeting, Ayatollah Montazeri told the Majlis deputies that in confronting different opinions and viewpoints the Majlis should not damage its credibility and dignity. He said Islamic principles and manners should be observed.

He added, we should not confront these (?different) thoughts without logic or principles. If these individuals even have a false word to say they should be given the chance to speak and reason and then they should be given an answer with reason and logic without insults .... The esteem of the Majlis and the freedom of expression which is expected of it should be preserved.

He said the first period of the Majlis dealt with fundamental laws of the Islamic Republic and therefore valuable time should not be wasted with negligible and worthless issues.

Ayatollah Montazeri said the respected Majlis deputies should try as much as possible to model their living standards along with the least wealthy people in the country. He said they should not forget that they grew up in the family of farmers, merchants and workers, and their position as Majlis deputies should not deviate them from this path. Of course, he added, for the time being security measures had imposed some conditions but later in the future entangling affairs in life should be eliminated. He also advised Majlis deputies to portion some of their time to study and discussing Islamic ideology.

Montazeri Receives Imam's Representatives 31 May

GF011210 Tehran International Television Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Jun 83

[Text] Ayatollah Montazeri received in Qom yesterday Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Fahri, the imam's representative in Syria and Lebanon, who briefed him on the problems of the Muslims and the necessity of supporting religious seminaries in both countries. Ayatollah Montazeri affirmed the importance of taking care of the religious affairs of the Muslims, supporting educational seminaries, and preparing and qualifying students of religious sciences to serve the cause of distributing Islamic law.

Ayatollah Montazeri also received yesterday Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmadi, the Imam's representative and Friday imam in Bandar 'Abbas in the southern part of the country, accompanied by a group of students of the prophet's religious school and Imam Sadeq School in addition to the Friday imams of Saqqez in Kordestan and (Gerash) in Fars Province.

Shiraz Friday Imam Meets Lebanese Student Clergymen

GF020546 Shiraz Domestic in Persian 1400 GMT 1 June 83

[Text] A number of Lebanese brother and sister student clergymen this morning met the Friday imam of Shiraz, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ha'eri-Shirazi. According to a Central News Unit report, a Lebanese brother first talked about the situation in Lebanon.

The Friday imam of Shiraz then discussed the occupying nature of the Jerusalem regime: The occupying regime of Jerusalem did not find occupying Palestine sufficient enough and turned its eyes toward Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq. The Friday imam of Shiraz invited them to resist against [word indistinct] and create unity between different levels of Muslims as a resistance against the occupying regime of Jerusalem, the shared enemy of all Muslims.

The Lebanese brother and sister student clergymen study in Zahra School and Imam (Montazar) School. They were invited by the Islamic Revolution guards unit in Lebanon to visit the fronts between right and wrong and the Muslim nation of Iran.

Radio Iran Reports Recent Arrests of Teachers

GF281916 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 28 May 83

[Text] On the eve of final exams in the academic year, a number of teachers in the country have been arrested. According to our news sources, a group from the society of teachers in the country in an open letter to teachers, students, and the Iranian nation condemned the criminal actions and murders of the Islamic regime and warned of the criminal plans of the Islamic regime to send schoolchildren to the warfronts.

In connection with this letter, a number of teachers have been arrested and some of their houses in Tehran and a number of other cities have been searched. We also have had a report that, following the discovery of a number of pamphlets objecting to the low pay of teachers, 11 female teachers in Tehran and Shemiran and 19 male teachers in Mashhad and Shiraz have also been arrested and imprisoned.